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BRITISH FORCES ARE NEARING BAGDADE

Further Notable Gains Have Been Made by the British Forces Against the Germans

BENDING TEUTON LINE NEAR SOMME AND ANCRE

Under British Bombardments the Germans Have Abandoned Their New Defensive System West of Bapaume on a Front of Three and a Half Miles to a Depth of a Mile—The Turks Are Being Given No Rest by the British Operating Against Them Northward From Bagdad and Along the Tigris River—Fighting Has Been Resumed in Galicia and in Macedonia—Another German Submarine Has Stranded on the Dutch Coast.

Further notable gains have been made by the British forces against the Germans in the operations which have as their object the capture of Bapaume and a general bending back of the German line eastward in the Somme and Ancre regions of France.

According to the British war office communication under another of the terrific British bombardments the Germans have abandoned their main defensive system west of Bapaume on a front of three and a half miles to a depth of a mile. The advance gave King George's troops the village of Grevillers and the outpost Wood, bringing the advanced British forces at the former place to a point a mile and a half from the northwestern outskirts of Bapaume.

North of the Ancre the left wing of the British in this particular operation has sent back the German line on a front of about a mile east and northeast of Commeny and some distance straightened out the curve extending from Esbarts les Baguies to the region northeast of Puisseux and Mont.

To the north of this region, in the vicinity of Arrimettes, Couches and Neuville-St. Vaast and northward to Neuvechelle the Germans threw forward fighting parties but all of these met with repulse, according to London.

MEETING OF GOVERNORS OF NEW ENGLAND STATES

Resolutions Adopted Pledging Their Support to President Wilson.

Boston, March 13.—The governors of the New England states, after several hours' conference on the present distressed condition of the country, adopted resolutions pledging their support and the support of the people of their states to the president in carrying out his announced policy of protecting United States lives and property on the high seas.

The supreme importance of recruiting the army and navy to war strength, of maintaining military supplies and equipment, and of speedy distribution of such materials and supplies at depots in the various states, so that they might be available at once in an emergency, were also asked for.

The governors urged "the necessity of making forthwith the most energetic preparations for national defense on land and sea."

It was stated that the resolutions were signed by Governors Carl E. Miliken of Maine, Henry W. Hayes of New Hampshire, Horace F. Graham of Vermont, Samuel W. McCall of Massachusetts, Marcus H. Holcomb of Connecticut and R. L. Beekman of Rhode Island.

The governors and their adjutants, who were called into conference by invitation of Governor McCall, consulted during the day with Major General Leonard Wood, U. S. A., commanding the department of the Massachusetts militia, and with William R. Rush, U. S. N., commander of the Boston navy yard. Other officers present were representatives of the public safety committee of this state, who in attendance both at the conference and at the dinner which followed.

RECRUITING FOR ARMY IS "GOING SLOW."

General Wood Says Pacific Campaign is Partly to Blame.

Boston, March 13.—Major General Leonard Wood at a mass meeting in the state house today held under the auspices of the sub-committee on recruiting of the Massachusetts committee on public safety, said that recruiting for the army throughout the country was "going slow." As reasons for this condition, he gave prosperity, prevailing assurance of employment and "most of all, the unpatriotic pacifist campaign, a campaign of men and of money, urging men not to enlist in the United States army."

Conferences are now being held by various parts of the country to see what can be done. Major General Wood stated, "where the spirit is all over the land, but it is not a well-trained spirit," he said.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW ENGLAND FOOD COUNCIL

To Disseminate Information for Benefit of Housekeepers.

Boston, March 13.—The establishment of a New England food council to disseminate information concerning the production, sale and distribution of food and to educate housekeepers in food values, retrenchment and utilization of waste, is a recommendation of the Boston Association of The Neighborhood Association, in a letter to Governor McCall today.

Further action will be taken to conduct a scientific survey of farm lands, form a planning board for crop planning, arrange for the utilization of state and municipal land and vacant lots and also consider ways and means of supplying farmers with labor and loans to cultivate and harvest their crops.

Cabled Paragraphs

British Has Received Notification.

London, March 13, 1917, p. m.—The British government has received formal notification from the state department at Washington of the decision to place armed guards on American merchantmen.

German Raider in Indian Ocean.

Vancouver, B. C., March 13.—Cable advice from Japan received here today by the Canadian Press, a Japanese newspaper, stated that a Japanese ship of about 3,165 tons has been sunk in the Indian Ocean by a German commerce raider. No details were given.

ARGUMENTS IN SUIT AGAINST U. S. STEEL

Solicitor-General Davis Will Finish Final Plea Today.

Washington, March 13.—Arguments for the defense in the government's dissolution suit against the United States Steel Corporation were concluded today by the solicitor-general. Solicitor-General Davis began the final plea for the department of justice, which was completed at 11 o'clock.

Denying monopolistic intent, effect or promise by the corporation, C. A. Severance, of St. Paul, declared in closing that the corporation "is a blessing that there is in this country such an organization, so strong and so good that it can go out and capture the markets of the world."

To the charge that the corporation controls the steel trade, Mr. Severance said it was not attained through crushing competitors, but through "conspiring initiative." Prices, he said, had not been fixed by domination, but by competition and competition had been maintained and increased greatly both in number and strength.

In beginning the final summing up for the government Solicitor-General Davis said that the possible use of the corporation's potential power was a subject to consider in its past conduct.

The government brings this suit, he said, "in the belief that a combination of able competitors in any trade so as to suppress competition between them is a violation of the Sherman law, if such restraint is undue and it is undue when combining competitors possess a preponderant or a controlling share of the market, and such action cannot relieve from condemnation of the law."

Refuting his early pleas were followed by combinations of the corporation's constituent subsidiaries and then by the subsidiaries and then by the "huge merger." Mr. Davis said not one of the subsidiaries "could alone have the power of legality of the Sherman act."

"Their organizers had but two purposes in mind," he continued, "to escape the Sherman act and to secure the profits of stock promotion. These illegal subsidiaries still exist and their ownership is controlled and their policies directed by a handful of men who control the corporation."

SPECIAL MARK OF HONOR TO LATE GEO. W. GUTHRIE

Japanese Warship to Transport the Body to the United States.

Tokyo, Monday, March 12.—As a special mark of honor to the late George W. Guthrie, American ambassador to Japan, the emperor is expected to detail a Japanese warship to transport the body to the United States. The official announcement designating the warship is awaited with great interest because broadly it indicates the high regard in which the Japanese government holds the friendship of the American nation, especially as Japanese warships are not permitted to visit the United States.

It was unofficially announced today that the first class cruiser Azuma had been designated to transport the body of the late ambassador to the United States.

THEFT OF JEWELRY VALUED AT \$600, IN NEW HAVEN

Evidently by Two Men Who Said They Wanted to Have Watch Repaired.

New Haven, Conn., March 13.—Complaint was made to the police tonight that a tray of diamonds valued at \$600 had been stolen from the jewelry store of P. W. Suttin late today. According to the story told the police by the proprietor, a man came into the store and asked to see an alarm clock. While he was busy with this man two other men entered the store, and the proprietor wanted to get a watch repaired. Soon after they left, saying they would call again in a minute. Shortly afterwards the proprietor discovered that the diamonds were missing. He could give only a meagre description of the men.

BERNSTORFF'S VIEWS ON OUTLOOK FOR WAR

Asserts It Will Come if a U-boat Sinks an American Ship.

London, March 13, 10.54 p. m.—In the course of an interview granted to the Copenhagen correspondent of the Berlin Tageblatt, says an Exchange despatch, Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador to the United States, thought there would be war between Germany and the United States, replied:

"That depends on our U-boat warfare. If we sink an American ship we are entering a new phase which we can avoid it."

And if asked the correspondent, "Germany sinks the British ship with American citizens aboard?" To this Count von Bernstorff replied:

"That is not the same."

ORGANIZATION OF THE RURAL CREDITS SYSTEM

Was Completed Yesterday With Appointment of Officers and Directors.

Washington, March 13.—Organization of the rural credits system was completed today with the appointment of officers and directors for the farm loan bank at Berkeley, Calif., the last of a series of twelve such institutions throughout the country to be opened for business soon under direction of the Federal Reserve board.

No date has been set for the opening.

Modification of Colombian Treaty in Two Explosions

AGREED UPON BY SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

VOTE TO PAY \$15,000,000

Senator Lodge Issued a Statement

Condemning the Treaty and Declaring It a Case of Blackmail.

Washington, March 13.—Modification of the Colombian treaty were agreed upon by the Senate foreign relations committee in an effort to meet republican objections and to meet the demand of the United States for the separation of Panama from Colombia.

Senator Lodge issued a statement condemning the treaty and declaring it a case of blackmail. He said that the treaty was a violation of the Sherman law, if such restraint is undue and it is undue when combining competitors possess a preponderant or a controlling share of the market, and such action cannot relieve from condemnation of the law.

U. S. Not Apologizing.

As amended, the expression of regret that anything as we have occurred to mar the friendly relations between the two countries would be made in the treaty by both the United States and Colombia, instead of by the United States only as in original draft, and the amount paid Colombia for the separation of Panama is restored to \$25,000,000. Last year the senate committee cut the sum to \$15,000,000. In addition, the committee today recommended an accompanying resolution providing that the United States must not be understood to be apologizing and that there is nothing to apologize.

Senator Knox, who as secretary of state under Taft, negotiated a convention with Colombia on the same subject, voted in the committee today to approve the present treaty, after he had with the support of the democrats secured approval of the proposed resolution.

Opposed by Lodge.

Senator Lodge, ranking republican member of the committee, issued a statement tonight condemning the treaty and declaring that even if he favored it he would not support it at this time because he was not willing to have the country blackmailed.

"We are told, and truly, I have no doubt," he said, "that German intrigue and German influence have been at work in this matter. We must ratify this treaty at once and pay Colombia \$25,000,000. We are told that the treaty will furnish the bases to Germany from which she can assault our shipping and the Panama canal and therefore in the present crisis, we must ratify the treaty and pay Colombia off with \$25,000,000 and an apology. That we are to pay Colombia off with \$25,000,000 and an apology prepared for war I am well aware but we have not yet sunk so low that Colombia can levy tribute upon us."

TWO MEN CHARGED WITH COMMITTING WIRE THEFTS

Have Been Turned Over to Stratford Authorities For Trial.

Milford, Conn., March 12.—Lelair Baldwin of this place and Mikola Dido, 35 years old, of Stratford, were arrested today by Chief James Maher of Milford. The two men were charged with committing wire thefts that have interrupted telegraphic communication in this section at intervals during the past two months. The two men were taken to the police station and held for trial there for a wire theft and each was held in \$500 bond. Baldwin, a native of Russia, recently sold a lot of copper wire.

Suspicion also being directed against the two men, they were placed under surveillance and learned they say, that he recently disposed of about \$400 worth of wire similar to that taken from the poles in Stratford, Milford and Orange.

The most recent theft was in Alington, just outside of New Haven. The two men were charged with knowledge of the outlying districts along the railroad to cut the wire and to have been in the vicinity to get away before trouble hunters arrived.

PLIGHT OF GERMANY IN FOOD CRISIS

Leader of Bavarian Peace Party Believes People Should Be Told.

The Hague, via London, March 13, 3.54 p. m.—After the debate in the Prussian house of commons on the food crisis, Dr. Heim, leader of the Bavarian peasant party, published an article concerning the situation from which the Vorwärts prints the following extracts:

"It is high time that the facts, which up to the present are known to but few of the uninitiated, should be published. It is better to tell the people the truth clearly than to continue to work on a system which has hopelessly broken down through its own failure. We must look out into the new crops; but even if tomorrow the harvest should be a poor one, it would be unable to furnish for a pound of bread grain owing to lack of tonnage and the world's crop failure."

"The people should be told the people squarely, and the ruthless measures must be borne, whether they affect the rich or the poor. The situation in Prussia and south Germany, but also the Prussian agrarians."

Dr. Heim attacks the shortcomings of the Prussian agrarians, instancing their failure to observe the conditions of the harvest of 1916, which he says has not yet been done.

THEFT OF \$1,000 WORTH OF JEWELRY AT DANBURY

Believed to Be the Work of Professional Sneak Thieves.

Danbury, Conn., March 13.—The theft of \$1,000 worth of jewelry from the apartments of Mrs. C. H. McAllister here late today has been reported to the police. The authorities believe the theft was the work of professional sneak thieves. There is no clue.

8 Miners Killed in Two Explosions

IN A MINE NEAR CANONSBURG, PA., YESTERDAY

5 OTHERS MISSING

Two Rescue Teams Are at Work

With Eight Engineers From the Bureau of Mines at Pittsburgh.

Canonsburg, Pa., March 13.—Eight miners are known to have been killed, and five others are missing as a result of two explosions which early today wrecked the interior of Hendersonville Mine No. 1, of the Henderson Coal company, three miles north of here. Late today the bodies of four miners were taken from the mine. Rescue parties have found the bodies of four others and they will be taken from the mine today. No bodies have yet been identified. The cause of the explosion has not been determined.

Eight engineers from the United States bureau of mines at Pittsburgh and two rescue teams are working in the mine.

When the four bodies were taken from the mine, more than 150 friends and relatives gathered in a hall covering from the bodies in order to identify the dead. The crowd about the entrance to the mine became so large tonight that a call was sent for state police to aid the companies.

DEMOCRATS TO HOUSE

TO CAUCUS APRIL 12

To Line Up Democratic Members For the Speakership Fight.

Washington, March 13.—Another series of conferences among democratic house leaders today resulted in a call for a caucus here on April 12, four days before the opening of the special session of Congress. The democratic members for the speakership fight. The republicans will caucus April 14 and the democrats will caucus April 15. The balance of power between the two parties will confer at about the same time in a further effort to agree on some concerted action.

Democratic Leader Kitchin returned to Washington early in the day and will make a statement to the caucus with Speaker Clark. The caucus call sent out afterward contained the statement that every democratic representative be present. The republicans decided to hold a conference April 14 and to make a final decision on the speakership fight. There still is much talk of a split in the democratic ranks, but Mr. Kitchin said today he did not expect such a plan to materialize.

Both Speaker Clark and Republican Leader Mann, who will be candidates for reelection, are expected to make a statement to the caucus. Mr. Mann urged Governor Whitman of New York to call a special election to elect a new speaker of the house.

The Colorado and Southern Railroad has declared a dividend of two per cent on the second preferred stock. The last previous dividend was made on October 1, 1913.

The Supreme Court refused a hearing to Thomas A. Sheridan, president of the First National Bank of Roseburg, Ore., convicted of misappropriation of funds belonging to depositors.

The New York Municipal League of the United States to "pillory" Great Britain for its failure to grant home rule to Ireland.

Governor Edge, of New Jersey, asked Governor George W. Goethals, former governor of Panama Canal zone, to accept the position of consulting engineer with the new State Highway Commission.

A. T. Cook and S. Jacobs, of Harrisburg, Pa., were arrested for involuntary manslaughter in connection with the air service and being selected to be sent to the station at Pensacola, Fla., for training. A school dirigible left the station in about ready for delivery.

The eight stations will be distributed along the coast to cover strategic areas to be determined by the board. Each will require six officers and forty men.

CORDON OF POLICE THROWN AROUND FORT HAMILTON

Probably as a Ruse to Test Their Readiness to Meet an Emergency.

New York, March 13.—While thearrison of Fort Hamilton was peacefully sleeping late tonight a cordon of 300 police reserves was thrown around the fortification upon orders of Police Commissioner Wood.

The police were told "German reservists" were mobilizing to attack the fort and that they must be repelled. Police boats patrolled the waters in front of the fortification.

Rafferty, in command of three companies of coast artillery which garrison Fort Hamilton said he would be ready to meet any impending assault by "reservists" and thought he would have been informed if such an attack had been imminent. The general belief was that the police had been ordered out to test their readiness to meet an emergency.

STREET CAR SERVICE IN WASHINGTON IRREGULAR

No Serious Disorder Has Occurred, but Violence Is Feared.

Washington, March 13.—Street car service on the Washington Railway and Electric company's lines was suspended today and tonight for fear of violence from conductors and motormen who were on strike yesterday for recognition of their union. No serious disorder occurred.

Vermont's oldest marble quarry opened about 1795, still is being operated profitably.

Condensed Telegrams

Carlos Jaeger, Brazilian consul at Vienna, committed suicide.

Six persons were injured when a trolley car left the rails at Stapleton, S. I.

Troop H., First Cavalry, arrived at Rochester, N. Y., from the Mexican border.

Hiram Johnson, U. S. senator elect, will resign next Thursday as governor of California.

Shipments of fresh and cured meats from Chicago for the week ended March 10, were valued at \$7,584,000 pounds.

The State Motor Car Co. was incorporated at Dover, Del., with a capital of \$6,000,000.

Maurice Stern, of Liverpool, applied for a membership in the New York Cotton Exchange.

Gold coin to the amount of \$640,000 was withdrawn from the Sub-Treasury for shipment to Spain.

Mobilization of the complete fighting strength of the navy was recommended by naval officials.

The American Locomotive Co. received an order for five 135-ton engines for the Grand Trunk.

A state police are investigating the disappearance of Miss Nellie Allano, 16 years old of Avon, Conn.

Domestic exports from the port of New York for the week ended March 10, were valued at \$63,155,232.

The Canadian Car & Foundry Co. has closed a contract for 3,000 freight cars for the Russian government.

Fritz Wulf, believed to be an escaped German sailor, and who was arrested at Chicago last Friday, was released.

General O'Brien, minister of war, has sent a telegram to President Carranza announcing his determination to retire to private life.

Arthur Lowenthal, of New York, was sentenced to serve 10 days in the city prison, without the alternative of paying a fine, for speeding.

Mayor Mitchell appointed a committee of 75 citizens to welcome James W. Gerard, ex-ambassador to Germany, on his arrival in New York.

Bronson B. Carter, three years old, was killed by a train at Oakville, Conn. He was playing with matches and set fire to his clothing.

The purchase of 16 non-rigid dirigible airships for coast and harbor patrol work, at a total cost of \$449,250, was announced by the War Department.

The license to conduct boxing bouts in Madison Square Garden granted to Grant Hugh Brown, was revoked at a meeting of the State Boxing Commission.

A call for a national convention of enrolled Progressives, to be held in St. Louis on April 12, 13, and 14, was issued by Matthew Hale, acting chairman of the party.

Fifty-nine of the 72 American sailors from the Yarrowdale, who were held prisoners for three months by the Swiss, have arrived safely in Switzerland.

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TRAINMEN PLAN FOR EIGHT-HOUR STRIKE

To be Inaugurated Next Saturday Evening Unless Eight Hour Day Is Granted

DEMANDS JUST WHAT WERE MADE LAST FALL

Brotherhood Heads Will Tell the Railroad Conference Committee in New York Thursday of Walkout Plans

Strike Orders Have Been Issued to the Various Organizations—There is Every Indication That President Wilson is Prepared to Move Again if the Transportation Facilities of the Nation Are Jeopardized.

Washington, March 13.—Complete plans of the four railroad brotherhoods for a nation-wide strike to be inaugurated next Saturday evening unless the railroads grant their eight-hour day demands were ratified here today by local union leaders from the southwestern territory and by a similar conference of representatives of the southwestern held at St. Louis.

The brotherhood heads will tell the railroad conference committee in New York Thursday of walkout plans. The strike would be a general one, affecting all railroads, and would be a complete stoppage of the railroads.

Each 24 hours until Wednesday a new group would be affected. This progressive system, the union men say, was adopted to avoid paralyzing traffic suddenly throughout the entire country and give railroads a chance to stop the strike's spread by meeting the union demands if they wish.

It was admitted that the strike plans disclosed by the railroad conference committee in New York today were substantially correct, except that the specific roads to be affected day by day were not named accurately. While the brotherhood leaders would not talk for publication about their strike arrangements, they declared all plans had been given unanimous approval by the national meetings so far held, and that similar action was taken by the meetings in New York and St. Paul tomorrow.

"We will not let the railroads' representatives Thursday with our entire membership union behind our demands," said W. H. Lee, head of the trainmen.

Calls for meetings of local committees to be held in the next three days in all cities over the country to receive final instructions for the strike, were issued from the brotherhood headquarters in Cleveland.

Unofficially, brotherhood officials emphasized their determination to allow nothing to prevent the strike except concessions from the railroads. They declined to discuss their course if the supreme court should hand a decision holding the Adamson act unconstitutional. It is possible that a decision will be handed by the court Monday, the next decision day.

CUBAN REBELS TO CONDUCT GUERRILLA WARFARE

Evidence That They Have No Organized Military Movement.

Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, March 13.—Additional evidence that the Cuban rebels have virtually decided to substitute a campaign of fire and pillage today, was given in a report of a meeting held yesterday at Sancti Spiritus, the headquarters of Major Roberto Fernandez, one of the rebel leaders.

Although it is certain that Fernandez' lieutenants dissented, he insisted, according to reports, that the time had come when his forces must be divided and guerrilla warfare begun. The rebels were urged to use burning torches into every cane-growing district, it is said, with instructions to burn, loot and bring desolation.

The encounter between the government forces and liberals has not been anticipated at Sancti Spiritus has not yet taken place. There were skirmishes today in which a few men were wounded.

Major Fernandez has placed guards so as to cut himself off from communication personally with the outside world. He has also been determined to force American intervention found echo today from other prominent Cuban residents in the justice of their cause and believe that Washington will act.

Quiet prevails at Sancti Spiritus and all the other cities where American forces are ashore.

REASONS FOR HIGHER PRICES OF MILK

Scarcity of Labor, High Cost of Feed and Increased Expenses.

New York, March 13.—Scarcity of labor, high cost of feed and other increased expenses are responsible for the demand of members of the Dairy men's League for higher prices for milk for the spring and summer months, it was explained at a conference here today by a committee representing the New York State Milk Dealers' conference board.

The conference board said that while an increased cost of production was conceded, the conference board explained that the power to enter into contracts for its individual members.

745,439 BOSTON RESIDENTS ARE OF FOREIGN BIRTH

Figures Given Out by the State Bureau of Statistics.

Boston, March 13.—Of the 745,439 inhabitants of this city shown by the census of 1915, 181,114 were born abroad, according to figures announced by the state bureau of statistics today. The figures show that the foreign born residents increased by 50,000 and foreign born residents by 25,000 in the five years preceding the census.

Ireland contributed the greater part of the foreign-born with 64,455 persons.

PATRIOTIC DEMONSTRATIONS FOR JAMES W. GERARD

Former Ambassador Passed Through Savannah Early Last Night.

Savannah, Ga., March 13.—James W. Gerard, former American ambassador to Germany, passed through here early tonight with Mrs. Gerard and a party of Americans returning from Berlin to Washington. The ambassador's trip through Florida and Georgia cities today was marked by a series of patriotic demonstrations and noisy orations in his honor.

Gerard will reach Washington tomorrow afternoon. He said today that if he got permission to visit his native land he would break his long silence on conditions in Germany.

CAPTAIN BOY-ED WAS SEEN IN BERLIN

Serving as Press Censor for the Minister of Marine.

Savannah, Ga., March 13.—Members of the party of James W. Gerard, former